

YS dance instructor bids farewell

Nov. 21 recital serves as 'swan song'

Story & photos
By Mildred Green

Youth Services Dance Instructor Jackie Dudman staged her final dance recital in the 6th Area Support Group Nov. 21.

Because Dudman was scheduled to leave before the event's scheduled performance date, there was concern that the recital would have to be cancelled.

However, the instructor said her students' hard work and dedication ensured that the show would definitely go on – just a bit earlier than planned.

The first group of dancers were kinder-ballet and kinder-ballet jazz (ages 3 to 5), followed by tap and contemporary dance with basic ballet (ages 6 to 12).

Along with the smiles seen during the performances, there were also tears from Dudman and parents at the end of the show.

Several parents made no secret of their feelings regarding Dudman's departure.

"We're very sad," said Rayna Salzwedel. "She's really friendly and good with the kids."

Seeing each child developing a strong character – and their happiness when they've achieved – was very special to me.

Jackie Dudman
YS Dance Instructor

Parents brought food and drinks for a farewell reception after the show.

Children and parents lined up during the reception to present the departing teacher with flowers and hugs.

"The children are attached to her," said Andrea Brown, a parent of one of Dudman's students. "It will be sad to see her go."

Dudman said she was truly sad to see this chapter in her life come to a close.

Though she said her fondest memory would be "seeing the students progressing over time and feeling good about themselves," she added that perhaps what she will miss the most is simply the faces of her students and the dedication they displayed.

[Top left] Two young ballet dancers perform Nov. 21 on Robinson Barracks.

[Bottom left] At the conclusion of an emotional performance, YS dance instructor Jackie Dudman receives one of many farewell hugs.



Chris Vucich sights on the target Nov. 22 while competing in the "Turkey Shoot" in the JROTC firing range on Patch Barracks

'Turkey Shoot' raises funds for Romanian orphanage

Story & photo
by Hugh C. McBride

Breathe easy, animal lovers: Despite the name, no fowl were harmed during the Patch High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps' "Turkey Shoot" Nov. 22.

The air rifles employed in the annual competition pointed only toward paper targets – and the contest's biggest bullseye was not

a fowl but a four-digit number on a tote board near the rifle range where the shooting took place.

"We're going to deliver \$1,000 dollars [from the event] to an orphanage in Romania," said Retired Chief Warrant Officer Jack Goldman, JROTC advisor.

Goldman said two JROTC cadets and PHS teacher Gary Kelb would travel to Romania over Thanksgiving vacation to bring the money and other supplies to the orphanage.